

Wednesday Morning, Dec. 25, 1867.

Christmas.

Whatever may be the lowering aspect of the firmament, earthly or heavenly, Christmas day brings with it a burst of sunshine for those who have yet to tread the rough and thorny paths of life. Christmas day is peculiarly the children's holiday, and he who has no sympathy with their innocent enjoyment must be devoid of all kindly emotions, or those feelings which refine and elevate human nature. Life is too short and the days of childhood too fleeting to curtail the enjoyment of the little ones. Smiling faces, kind words, suitable juvenile gifts, will make them happy, and that happiness will be transfused throughout the whole family circle. Let parents and elder members of their families do all in their power to promote this family sunshine.

Of course, at many a heart-stone one or more places will be vacant in the family circle; but while we may regret the death or temporary absence of the missing occupants of the vacant chairs around the Christmas dinner-table, we should not throw a gloom over the happiness of those still left us, by vain repinings or fruitless grief; the present is all that we can call our own; it is our duty, therefore, to contribute as much as lies in our power to the happiness of others. And in this connection we may repeat from Scripture, the poor we have always with us, and if ever there was a season when benevolence, flowing, full and free, should be exercised, it is on this festive day. Thousands have no Christmas dinner to-day, and many thousands have not clothing sufficient for the inclemency of the season. Every Christian should be up and doing what he is able, to cheer and comfort the suffering poor; and every one who has the means, be he professing Christian or not, should remember the poor to-day—if he does, it will go well with him.

We extend to all our friends and readers the cordial wish that they may have a merry Christmas.

Terrible Suffering.

The New Orleans Times gives an alarming report of the condition of the negroes in Louisiana, and particularly in the Parishes overflowed by the breach in the levee at Point Coupee. Thirteen Parishes have become totally unproductive by the breach, and all classes of the population are in a state of severe privation. Poverty is scarcely the name for the deplorable condition of the people of these Districts. But bad as is the condition among the planters and white inhabitants, that of the negroes is still worse. Upward of 20,000 of this class are at the point of starvation, and almost entirely destitute of the necessities of life. Unless some speedy relief comes, the lamentable consequences will be scarcely calculable.

20,000 negroes starving! What a result of misguided philanthropy and false political teachings! Never before, no matter what the impoverished condition of the whites may have been, were negroes allowed to starve. But it is useless now to discuss the causes of the wide-spread privation that exists, and must exist, throughout the winter, especially among this class of people. It is idle to denounce, as we see some of our contemporaries do, the unwise legislation that has produced these sad results. The more important question is how to save these people from perishing for lack of food. It is not their fault that they are in their present condition; and the Government ought to send swift relief to them, which they are bound to do by every obligation of right as well as of humanity.

THE BAPTIST BANNER.—The first number of the seventh volume of the Baptist Banner will be issued in Augusta, on the first Saturday in January, and will be published thereafter on every Saturday. The editorial chair will be occupied by Mr. James N. Ellis, who will be aided by some of the most distinguished writers of the Baptist denomination. The terms will be \$3 per annum.

Old maids ought to be charming. They are matchless.

THE BUREAU IN THIS STATE.—The

Charleston News, of Tuesday, says: The information received from Washington that Gen. R. K. Scott, the present Assistant Commissioner of the Bureau for this State, would be retained in his position until further orders, has given general pleasure to those who, though not friends of the institution, desired to see it conducted with judgment and sound discretion. Since Gen. Scott assumed charge of the Bureau he has endeavored to control it for the benefit of those for whom it was designed; and the destitute poor of the city, both white and black, have frequently had cause to appreciate its aid. Without entering upon a panegyric of the Bureau, it is not, therefore, improper at this time to consider some of its workings, and award praise where it is due.

In August last it was decided to discontinue the distribution of rations to the destitute, and numbers who were dependent on the Bureau for a support were thrown upon their own resources. The comparative failure of the crops, which was followed by a scarcity of money, increased the destitution, especially among the laboring classes; many of whom were thrown out of employment. At his urgent solicitation, however, Gen. Scott was allowed to continue the bounty of the Bureau to a limited extent. The number of registered beneficiaries in this city and the suburbs was about 500 whites and 800 blacks, most of the former being widows with large families. It would have been harsh, indeed, to have at once deprived this number of destitute poor of their daily food, and Gen. Scott applied to the Chief Commissioner, Gen. Howard, for permission to establish soup houses for the poor. This was granted, and as soon as authority to purchase necessary meat was obtained, they will be opened and the bounty dispensed. The Government at Washington has among its army stores a large quantity of desiccated vegetables put up in hermetically sealed cans. These are now nearly useless for army purposes, and if sold at auction would bring a mere song. Gen. Scott has applied for a portion of these stores, and will use them as one of the ingredients of the soup. The houses for distribution will be established at the Colored Orphan Asylum in Queen street, and in King street, one door above Hudson, and it is expected they will be opened to the public on the first of the month.

In addition to the rations furnished, the Bureau has distributed a quantity of clothing, shoes, &c. During the past year, over 1,500 over-coats were given to the poor, principally aged and infirm negro men. At present, these supplies are confined to the colored women, who are constant applicants for this bounty.

The changes recently made by Gen. Scott, in the discharge of several of his officials for meddling with politics, have been sustained by Gen. Howard. Some of the parties who were discharged went to Washington, and endeavored to procure their re-installment, but failed to convince the authorities of their innocence, and only enjoyed their trouble for their pains.

NEGRO BARRIARISM IN HAYTI.—A special telegram to the Herald, which we printed yesterday, confirms the report of the murder of Gen. Leon Montes, in the dungeon at Cape Haytien. The original report was bad enough; but, bad as it was, it left us in comparative ignorance of the actual facts of the case. The details, as we now have them, are horrible in the extreme. Kept without food for four days, dosed with poison, smothered to the extent to which available strength could smother him, he is only deprived of life at last by repeated stabs in the skull with a chisel. This, however, was not all. The brother of the murdered man, who had in the meantime been captured, was chained down to the bloody bed on which this deed of wickedness had been perpetrated. The only relieving feature in this barbaric picture is the announced fact that the parents of the brothers Montes have been driven to desperation. It is to be borne in mind that this barbarity has been accomplished by official command. What is the lesson? Do we require to state it? Were it not for the special benefit of our New England philanthropists, we should be ashamed to do so. This is a specimen of negro civilization; this is what the negro can do when left to govern himself; this is an illustration beforehand of what is to be expected from negro supremacy in the South. A word to the wise is not lost. Even the unwise sometimes learn. God save the South from such masters.

COUNTERMANDED.—The Bennettsville (S. C.) Journal learns, from a reliable source, that the order discontinuing the military posts at Darlington and the Pee Dee country has been countermanded, and that these military posts will be continued as formerly.

The negro in the Atlanta Convention (Bradley) was Rufus Choate's body servant, and that it was while answering the door of Choate's office and dusting the table that he acquired his proficiency as a lawyer.

A correspondent of the Anti-Slavery Standard says that Gen. Grant was opposed to the impeachment project—saying that "the country needed repose and that all extreme measures should be at once abandoned by Congress." What ever the Standard may think of it, we believe the great body of the people will agree with Gen. Grant in this sentiment. The country does need repose. It needs it more than anything else just now—unless it be the wisdom and good sense which repose will bring, if anything can. Until the country gets repose, it is not likely to get anything else it needs. All the great interests of the nation—material, moral and political—are suffering for lack of it. And Gen. Grant can give it to us if anybody can.—New York Times.

THE FRUITS OF RADICALISM.—A friend in New York, writing to one of the editors of this paper, under date of the 21st, incidentally remarks: "The Navy Yard to-day discharged 3,600 hands, H. B. Claflin 200, A. T. Stewart about the same number, and all the dry goods houses are following their example—made necessary by the great decline in their trade. It is estimated that over 60,000 persons will be without employment in this city during the winter."

This is one of the fruits of the suicidal legislation fastened on the country by the radical-negro-supremacy party.—Augusta Chronicle.

TERRIBLE TRAGEDY AT APALACHICOLA.—Last week, Mr. Price, a merchant, residing at the upper end of Water street, Apalachicola, was strangled to death and his house burned by robbers, who supposed he had a considerable amount of money in his possession. The perpetrators of the crime have not yet been discovered.

Acacia Lodge No. 94, A. F. M.—A REGULAR COMMUNICATION of this Lodge will be held TOMORROW (Thursday) EVENING, 26th instant, at 7 o'clock, at Odd Fellows' Hall.

This being the meeting for the election of Officers, a full and punctual attendance is requested. By order of the W. M. J. L. KIRKWOOD, Sec'y.

Eggs and Butter.—200 DOZEN FRESH EGGS, 50 lbs. Gibson's Butter. For sale by FISHER & LOWRANCE.

John H. Heise, Confectioner.—FRENCH and DOMESTIC CONFECTIONARY, and every variety of fancy articles suitable for Christmas and New Year presents. To be raffled, on Christmas and New Year Eves, a large variety of FANCY ARTICLES, ORNAMENTED CAKES, &c., at the corner of Plain and Marion streets. Dec 24 3

Happy Surprise.—If you wish to surprise the dear ones at home with something pretty and pleasing for CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR PRESENTS, and of course you do, you will find almost everything, both suitable and desirable, at E. POLLARD'S. Dec 21 6

A GRAND TOURNAMENT.—WILL come off in rear of the South Carolina University, on CHRISTMAS MORNING, commencing at 10 o'clock. The Ladies especially, and the public generally, are invited to be present. Seats have been provided for the Ladies and Gentlemen accompanying them. The Knights are ordered to assemble opposite the ruins of Christ Church, at half-past 8 o'clock. W. B. GREEN, Chairman. W. C. MCGREGOR, Secretary. Dec 24 2

"HO! FOR THE TOURNAMENT."—PARTIES wishing SEATS to and from the TOURNAMENT, will please leave their names at the Office of the National Hotel. Dec 24 1

VERY OLD JAMAICA RUM, GOOD FOR EGG-NOG, at Dec 21 J. C. SEEGER & CO.'S.

FRESH BUTTER AND EGGS.—199 LBS. Fresh Mountain BUTTER, 75 dozen Fresh EGGS. At Dec 21 J. C. SEEGER & CO.'S.

TO RENT.—A COTTAGE with Four Rooms and Kitchen with Two Rooms. Well of Water and good Garden on premises. Possession given 1st January, 1868. Apply at THIS OFFICE. Dec 24 3

Eggs! Eggs!! Eggs!!!—250 DOZEN FRESH EGGS, for sale by E. & G. D. HOPE. Dec 21

1868.—The Baptist Banner, Augusta, Georgia.—THE first number of the seventh volume of this religious and family journal, will appear on the FIRST SATURDAY in January, 1868. The Banner will be issued regularly, every Saturday, printed with new type and on fine paper. The Resident Editor, Mr. JAMES N. ELLIS, will be aided by the pen of some of the most distinguished writers of the denomination in this and the adjoining States.

A limited number of advertisements (of suitable character) will be received, at the usual rates. Subscription price \$3 per annum. Address, BAPTIST BANNER, Augusta, Ga. Dec 21

FIRE CRACKERS.—25 BOXES of the best quality of FIRE CRACKERS, called the "Golden Chop No. 1." At wholesale and retail. Dec 19 E. POLLARD.

100 Reams Wrapping Paper, VERY STRONG, at low rates. Dec 7 JOHN C. SEEGER & CO.

INCENDIARISM.—The store of Mr. P. M. Inabinet, in Ridgeville, was entirely consumed by fire, on Sunday morning last, together with \$8,000 worth of stock. The fire was of incendiary origin, and the authorities, who have some clue to them, are ferreting out the perpetrators.

In the South Pacific coasting trade, of which the people of the United States should enjoy the largest share, there is not a single American steamer, and only a few sailing vessels, while England has a fleet of some twenty-five steamers.

Telegrams passed, on Sunday night, via New York and Chicago, by one direct wire, to Omaha, Salt Lake City, and San Francisco—a distance of over 5,000 miles.

An Illinois editor proposes to "board around" with his non-paying subscribers.

"Crunk" says: Why not? He has doubtless "boarded" them frequently.

France has a navy of 343 steam and 116 sailing vessels. During the present year, 26 vessels have been added, two of which were built in this country.

A Canada writer says that "winter is now spreading his latent plumes." A tail feather or two has fluttered down this way.

Nova Scotia has produced 27,500 ounces of gold during the past year, an increase of 3,500 ounces over the yield of the preceding twelve months.

Why is Gillot accountable for much dishonesty? Because he makes people steel pens, and says they do write.

Some one calls the time of squeezing girl's hands the *palmy* season of life.

There is enough iron in the blood of forty men to make a plow weighing twenty-four pounds.

Why should winter be called the dead time of the year? Is not autumn the burying season?

Nevada is a treeless country. The want of fuel is a great drawback from the value of the mines in that State.

A ninety-five dollar pearl was found in an oyster at Alexandria, Va., the other day.

An antelope—your father's sister running away to be married.

Counter attractions—handsome dry goods clerks.

Judy knows a man so hard up that he even sleeps on tick.

What game of cards do quadrupeds best understand? All fours.

The best possession—self-possession.—Punch.

In some parts of Alaska the sun shines eighteen hours in twenty-four.

FINE FAMILY BIBLES.—We have a few very fine Oxford editions of the FAMILY BIBLE, which we will sell at cost. They were sent us by mistake.

HYMN BOOKS and Prayer Books of various styles of binding, for the different Churches.

Writing Desks, Paperies containing Envelopes and Paper, perfumed—something new—a handsome Christmas present, at DUFFIE & CHAPMAN'S Bookstore. Dec 22

Columbia Gas Light Company.—THE Annual Meeting of Stockholders will take place on THURSDAY, the 26th inst., at 11 o'clock, in the Room of State Library, Bank Building, Main street. JACOB LEVIN, Secretary Gas Company. Dec 20 4

New Presbyterian Hymn Books.—JUST received, an assortment of the new Southern PSALMS and HYMNS, in plain and fine bindings. For sale at McCarter's Bookstore. Dec 21 R. L. BRYAN.

Christmas Books for Children.—ALSO, WRITING DESKS, Portfolios, Gold Pens, Pen-knives, Pocket Books, elegant and cheap Family Bibles, Pocket Bibles, London editions, cheap and fine; Prayer Books of all sizes and prices; fine ink-stands for gifts.

A new supply of PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS, of all sizes; Backgammon Boards, Chessmen, Dominoes and games for children. For sale at McCarter's Bookstore. Dec 21 R. L. BRYAN.

Heintz's Crimson Tetter Wash, for Tetter, Ringworm, Pimples, Worm Spots, Roughness of the Skin—a cure for Tetter and Ringworm.

OATS, OATS.—200 BUSHELS PRIME OATS for sale low. FISHER & LOWRANCE. Dec 4

Hams and Breakfast Strips, FRESH and good, at low rates. Dec 7 JOHN C. SEEGER & CO.

Local Items.

SUSPENSION.—Both the daily and tri-weekly publications of the *Phoenix* will be suspended to-morrow.

We have been requested to state that religious services may be expected this morning, at half-past 10 o'clock, in the Marion and Washington Street Methodist Churches.

ARRESTED.—We learn that John Neely, alias Walden, charged with horse-stealing, was arrested at his residence in this District, night before last, by Messrs. John and Edward Loomas. Neely is now confined in jail.

Don't forget the tournament this morning, at 10 o'clock, on the University Green. Over thirty riders. The fandango, in the evening, will be participated in only by the knights and their "fayre ladies."

THE RIVERSIDE MAGAZINE.—One of the very best publications for the little folks is the above magazine, issued by Messrs. Hurd & Houghton, Broome street, New York. It is embellished with beautiful engravings, of an attractive character; besides music, poetry and reading matter of a general nature. It is worthy of a generous support.

GRAND CHRISTMAS PRIZE RAFFLE.—We have been requested to announce that a raffle for the following four prizes will come off at the National Hotel, this evening, at 8 o'clock: A fine horse, a valuable gold watch, a splendid Cremona violin, and a heavy gold vest chain—\$5 per chance. The highest throw takes choice of prizes.

There was a very interesting gathering, in the Washington Street Methodist Chapel, yesterday afternoon. A Christmas tree, tastefully illuminated and beautifully decorated, was erected within the altar; and so fruitful was it that all the scholars—including those from the Marion Street Sunday School, who were present by invitation—received a memento from it. The teachers likewise gave their various charges appropriate presents—books as well as sweetmeats, etc. The scholars practiced a beautiful hymn, commemorative of the day, which will be sung in the church this morning.

CHRISTMAS BAZAARS.—Our advertising columns show that notwithstanding the hard times, the little ones can be abundantly supplied with their usual Christmas gifts. Santa Claus has commissioned his tried and trusted almoner, McKenzie, to dispense from the bounteous store with which, as usual, he has provided him. A magnificent Christmas tree presents numerous attractions to visitors. Next comes our other old ally in the good cause, Heise, whose cakes and raffles add much to the enjoyment of the holidays. The latter's former first lieutenant, Pollard, has been promoted, or promoted himself, and is prepared to give a "happy surprise" to all the little ones. Then comes the Messrs. Hope with a catalogue of Christmas goods, which must gladden the hearts of house-keepers. Seegers & Co. brag of a very superior element in the manufacture of egg-nog, and if our advertisements have been read it will be perceived that there are eggs enough offered for sale to make egg-nog enough for every man, woman and child in the city. Messrs. Bryan and Duffie & Chapman are fully prepared with gifts in their line, from that suitable for a sweetheart to that adapted to the student of A, B, C. We hope all will be liberally patronized, for just in proportion as they are so will be the happiness of the "rising generation" to-day.

JOB WORK.—Every description of book and job printing—pamphlets, bill heads, circulars, labels, posters, programmes, business, wedding and invitation cards, railroad receipts, checks, drafts, &c., promptly executed at the lowest rates.

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.—The post office open during the week from 8½ a. m. to 6 p. m. On Sundays, from 1½ to 2½ p. m.

The Charleston and Western mails are open for delivery at 2 p. m., and close at 9 a. m.

Northern—Open for delivery at 10½ a. m., closes at 1 p. m.

Greenview—Open for delivery at 3 p. m., closes at 8 p. m.

FIVE CENTS.—The price of single copies of the *Phoenix* is five cents, and purchasers are requested to pay no more for them. We are informed that some of the news-boys charge ten. This is an imposition.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.—Attention is called to the following advertisements, published this morning for the first time: Regular Meeting Acacia Lodge. F. W. Green—Sheriff's Sale.

Christmas Cock-Fighting.—IN rear of the Post Office, may be expected during Christmas week. A Policeman will be in attendance and the sport conducted with propriety and under the regular rules. Judges will be appointed for the decision of every contest. C. MINOTT & CO., Proprietors. Dec 22 6

TO RENT.—A HOUSE, on Upper street, containing Eight Rooms. Apply to WILLIAM WALLACE, Law Range. Dec 26

Genuine Havana Segars.—5,500 CHOICE brands SPANISH SEGARS, for sale low, by E. & G. D. HOPE. Dec 21

New Country-Cured Bacon.—HAMS, Sides and Shoulders, for sale by E. & G. D. HOPE. Dec 21

Fire Crackers.—50 BOXES No. 1 Golden Chop FIRE CRACKERS, for sale low, by E. & G. D. HOPE. Dec 21

Irish Potatoes.—11 BBLS. EATING POTATOES, Jackson White, in fine order. E. & G. D. HOPE. Dec 21

Carolina Rice.—6 BBLS. Prime Whole CAROLINA RICE, for sale by E. & G. D. HOPE. Dec 21

Old Government Java.—19 POCKETS Old and Choice Government JAVA COFFEE, for sale by E. & G. D. HOPE. Dec 21

Almonds and Raisins.—A LBS. ENGLISH WALNUTS, Pecan Nuts, Butter Nuts and Filberts, at E. POLLARD'S. Dec 17 46

Private Boarding or Rooms to Rent.—A LIMITED number of small Families, or Single Gentlemen, can be accommodated with BOARD (in a small Family,) with or without LODGING, convenient to the business part of the city, or four well furnished ROOMS will be rented. For convenience, application may be made to A. H. PHILLIPS, Commission Agent. Dec 17 64

VIOLIN AND GUITAR STRINGS.—A LARGE and choice selection of the very best ITALIAN STRINGS. Also, a full assortment of VIOLONCELLO STRINGS, a great variety of Violin Bows, Screws, Bridges, Tail Bows and Rosins, just received at E. POLLARD'S. Dec 17 42

M. W. BYTHEWOOD, Auctioneer and General Commission Merchant. On Washington st., rear of A. Tolleson's, COLUMBIA, S. C.

THE above store, having been rented, I am from this day prepared to receive consignments of Cotton, Corn, Flour, Bacon, Groceries and Provisions in general; also, Furniture, Dry Goods, Clothing, Tobacco, &c. From my experience of twenty years in the auction and commission business, in this city, Charleston and Newberry, S. C., I hope to receive a liberal share of patronage from my old friends and the public generally. Dec 19

FRESH ARRIVALS.—JUST RECEIVED, choice HAMS, BREAKFAST STRIPS and other BACON. A lot of new COUNTRY FLOUR, just in.

Bales of COTTON YARNS from one of the best factories in the State, for sale by the bale. All of which will be sold at lowest prices, by ROBERT BRYCE & SON.

We are also agents for the HAZARD POWDER COMPANY. Merchants can be supplied with all kinds and in any quantity. Dec 17 46

Valuable Building Lots.—COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, December 14. THREE CHOICE BUILDING LOTS, on Main street, central part. To be treated for at private sale. Terms very easy to an approved purchaser. Dec 15 D. B. DESAUSSEURE.

SALT.—LIVERPOOL SALT, as good, as large and as cheap as other parties are selling. FISHER & LOWRANCE. Dec 17

500 BUSHELS CORN, FOR SALE by Dec 17 FISHER & LOWRANCE.

An eruption of the skin, of thirty year's standing, which defied the skill of the doctors, was cured, in Philadelphia, by using Heintz's Queen's Delight.

English Goods.—JUST RECEIVED, direct from Liverpool. Fine DOUBLE-BARREL GUNS, Eley's and Cox's Percussion Caps, Police Handcuffs, Tinned Iron, Table and Tea Spoons, Common and Fine Curry Combs, Padlocks, in sets and dozens, Fine Steel Shovels and Tongs, English Wafer Irons, Trace Chains and Hoes, Hooks and Hinges, Cases Surveyor's Instruments, Brass Letter Locks, Brad, Sewing and Pegging Awls, Wad Cutters, Gun Wads, &c. For sale low by J. & T. R. AGNEW. Dec 21

Cressian Lustre, for beautifying the hair, for young and old; an elegant article and cheaper than anything else of the kind. Sold by Fisher & Heintz.

To Publishers and Journalists.—A LARGE amount of TYPE and JOB MATERIAL for sale, lots to suit purchasers. Terms reasonable and cash. Also, a fine HAND PRESS, price \$250; an Adams Power Press, price \$1,500; and a Card Press, price \$100. Apply to F. G. DEFONTAINE, Columbia. Dec 6